

# HOSPITAL AND TRAINING-SCHOOL ITEMS



## HOSPITALS

A NOVEL experiment has been inaugurated by the Babies' Hospital in the city of New York. So many deplorable cases have been presented for treatment, oftentimes the result of neglect or ignorance, and so many babies, after leaving the hospital, have been returned again for treatment as a result of not having proper care in their homes after discharge, that the hospital has recently engaged a visiting physician, whose duty it is to follow up all cases of a serious nature discharged from the hospital in an improved or cured condition. The duties of this officer are similar to those of a visiting dispensary physician, and they centre about the child, although the mother is usually the one who is instructed in the proper care to be given the infant. The visiting physician goes to the home, prescribes when necessary, gives directions as to the preparation of food and sterilizing of milk,—often preparing the food under the eyes of the mother so that she may see exactly how it is done,—the hatching of the child, and the ventilation and sanitation of the home, particularly the sleeping-rooms.

A CONTAGIOUS disease hospital at Sixteenth Street and the East River, New York City, which will cost three hundred and fifty thousand dollars, will be the first to be built on the plan of Dr. Lederle, of the Department of Health, to provide for cases of contagious disease. The deplorable condition of North Brother Island and the wholly inadequate provision for the care of patients Dr. Lederle proposes to overcome by the expenditure of two million dollars within three years. Of this sum seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars have already been appropriated.

The hospitals on North Brother Island have long been inadequate to the needs of the city, and their distance from the city has worked a considerable hardship to the patients, who must make the long transfer, and to their relatives, who are separated from them. The Commissioner of Health states that at present the city's facilities are overcrowded, although caring for less than ten per cent. of the contagious sick.

THE Board of Estimate and Apportionment has appropriated seventy-five thousand dollars for the drawing of plans and the preparation of specifications for a new plant on the site of the present Bellevue Hospital, the main building of which was constructed in 1811 for use as an almshouse. The inconvenience and lack of sanitation of this building have been sufficiently set forth in the reports of the Board of Trustees and in the press, and the public will welcome the prompt action of the present city government in taking steps to do away with these deplorable conditions.

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## TRAINING-SCHOOL NOTES

THE committee appointed at the recent meeting of the Board of Directors of the Charity Association of San Antonio and Bexar County to select an agent for the association has selected Miss Mildred McKnight to fill that position. She

has been notified of her appointment and has accepted it, and will begin work at once.

It would perhaps have been impossible to have secured a person better fitted to fill the responsible position of agent of the Charity Association than is Miss McKnight. She is a graduate nurse of the Illinois Training-School, Class of 1897, and stands at the head of her profession in Chicago. It is the general feeling of all those who have heard of her appointment that both by nature and by training she is just the person for the place, that she has the qualifications both of head and heart to make an ideal agent. Not only the Charity Association, but the whole community, is to be congratulated upon Miss McKnight's acceptance of the position. The Illinois school now supplies several nurses to the Chicago Lying-in Hospital, where they reside for three months at a time.

MISS ELIZABETH L. WALKER, formerly night superintendent of Hospital No. 1, Havana, has received the appointment of superintendent of nurses of that hospital, following Miss M. E. Hibbard, who resigned her position December 31.

Miss Walker was in charge of the school during the month of January as superintendent interim, and received the official appointment as superintendent February 1.

Mrs. Emilia Rivas de Santos arrived at Hospital Civil, Santiago de Cuba, January 1, where she had been appointed as head nurse. Mrs. Rivas de Santos is from Costa Rica. She received her training in Jefferson College Hospital, Philadelphia, graduating May 13, 1902.

Miss Wilhelmina Giesemann has once more returned to Cuba and is stationed at Hospital No. 1, Havana.

MISS RACHEL BOURKE, for thirteen years superintendent of nurses of the Cooper Hospital, of Camden, N. J., tendered her resignation on Saturday, April 11, to take effect June 30. She has been appointed superintendent of nurses of the State Hospital for the Insane at Trenton, and will assume charge September 1. She will establish a school for trained nurses in connection with the asylum, the first within its history.

Prior to entering upon her new duties Miss Bourke will spend two months in Europe. Miss Bourke is a graduate of the Massachusetts General Hospital, of Boston, and the McLean Hospital, of Waverly, Mass.

Miss Bourke's resignation was received with genuine regret.

THE graduating exercises of the Class of 1903 of the Smith Infirmary, Staten Island, were held at the rooms of the Woman's Club on Saturday evening, March 14. A class of nine graduated. Mr. De Witt Stafford, president of the Board of Trustees, presided. Miss Anna C. Maxwell, ex-Congressman Montague Lessler, and Dr. William Bryan, of the attending staff, gave very interesting addresses. Miss Twitchell gave her annual report and Mr. Stafford presented diplomas and medals, after which refreshments were served and the nurses and their friends danced for two hours. All the graduates received quantities of flowers and a good many presents, and all present voted it one of the pleasantest graduations the school had ever had.

AT the last meeting of the Board of Managers for the Metropolitan Training-School, Blackwell's Island, it was decided to hold commencement exercises for the Training-School the latter part of May. This will be the first commencement in the history of the school, which was organized in 1892.

The school has increased in size during the past year, and in order to accommodate the additional staff of nurses a third story has been added to the Nurses' Home. The graduates of the school are taking steps towards organizing an Alumnae Association.

MENTION was made in these pages some months ago of the fact that the Illinois Training-School of Chicago would withdraw its nurses from the Presbyterian Hospital in the early fall. This hospital will then establish an independent school, giving a course of three years and six months. For the first six months pupils will pay a tuition fee of twenty-five dollars. It is also intended to open all departments of the hospital for post-graduate work. This being a general hospital of over two hundred and fifty beds, post-graduate facilities will be provided for nurses in the West.

THE Toronto nurses in the Yukon, Misses Smith, Anderson, and Gould, have each had their salaries raised three hundred dollars. This makes the salary of Miss Smith eighteen hundred dollars per annum, and of Miss Anderson and Miss Gould twelve hundred dollars each. This step was taken by the authorities to express in a practical manner their appreciation of the work accomplished since the arrival of these nurses in Dawson last September.

MISS BURDICK, of the Class of 1892, has just resigned her position of head nurse in the private division of the Long Island College Hospital. That it is deeply regretted by those with whom she has worked is shown by her receiving a handsome gift, accompanied by a written acknowledgment of her kindness and much regret at the step she has taken, signed by a large number of nurses and the medical staff of the hospital.

MISS RACHEL HANNA, of Toronto, is to take charge of the new hospital in Red Deer, near Edmonton, Northwest Territory. Miss Hanna graduated in 1892, and went to the Yukon in 1898, when it took six months to accomplish the journey, and returned in the fall of 1902, the return journey occupying only two weeks.

MISS ROSE OLIVE CHALMERS, who was graduated April 7, 1903, from the People's Hospital Training-School of Chicago, has been appointed superintendent of nurses of the same school. The popularity of the People's Hospital has led to its increased growth, better quarters, and a more efficient corps of nurses.

MISS ELIZABETH A. PARKER, graduate of the Rochester Homœopathic Hospital in the Class of 1894, late superintendent of the Maryland Homœopathic Hospital, has accepted the position of matron and superintendent of the Training-School at the Homœopathic Hospital at Reading, Pa.

THE many friends of Miss Minerva Lowry, who graduated from the Rochester Homœopathic Hospital Training-School in 1898, will be sorry to learn of her death at the hospital on February 14, 1893. Her death is very much regretted by her friends at the hospital.

MISS M. PAXTON, a graduate of the Garfield Training-School, has recently been appointed superintendent of the Columbian University Hospital, Washington, D. C. Her assistants are Miss Hattie Bower, Miss Grisson, and Mrs. Bonsig Blackford.

MRS. B. M. FOLLOWS, *née* Apperley, a graduate of Bellevue Hospital, New York City, has accepted the position of superintendent of nurses at the new hospital in Los Angeles, Cal., known as the Emergency and General Hospital.

MISS ANNA L. TRIPP, graduate of the Rochester Homœopathic Hospital Training-School in the Class of 1898, has accepted the position of superintendent of the Training-School at the Union Hospital of Lynn, Mass.

MISS AUGUSTA BLAKELEY, Class of 1890, Toronto, leaves June 1 to take charge of a hospital recently built by the Victorian Order of Nurses at Swan River, Northwest Territory.

MISS ANNIE DICK, Class of 1903, Toronto, will take charge of the Rainbow Cottage Hospital, South Euclid, O., during the summer months.

THE engagement is announced of Miss Josephine D. Trenholm, of the Garfield School, to Mr. Hinckley Lyman.

MISS LUCY MILLIKEN, graduate of the Garfield School, has removed to New York.

IN March Miss Mary B. Bonsig was married to Mr. Franklin W. Blackford.



GELATIN AS A HÆMOSTATIC FOR CHILDREN.—The *Journal of the American Medical Association*, quoting from a foreign exchange, says: "Zuppinger witnessed the death of a girl of eight with hemorrhagic purpura whose nose had been tamponed to arrest uncontrollable bleeding. The hemorrhage was apparently arrested, but the child died suddenly soon afterwards, and the air-passages were found full of accumulated blood. Since that time he has made a practice of subcutaneous injection of a two to five per cent. solution of gelatin in all hemorrhagic affections in children, and has found it invariably successful in controlling the bleeding. He has sometimes used a ten per cent. solution. Holtschmied has reported that he saved the lives of five infants with melena neonatorum by injection of fifteen cubic centimetres of a two per cent. solution. In three the effect was immediate; the others required one or two more injections. Others have published similarly favorable results in this formerly hopeless affection. A few drops of a concentrated solution applied to the bleeding-point in cases of hemorrhage in the throat, etc., have instantaneously arrested it in many cases."

PICRIC ACID.—Victor Milward says in the *British Medical Journal* that picric acid is a simple and effective remedy in the treatment of burns and that it promotes rapid healing. It is best used in a 1 to 95 solution in distilled water. It is also useful, according to Milward, in the treatment of perionychia, soft corns, and intertrigo. The method of application is to place lint, soaked in the solution, over the affected part and to cover this with non-absorbent wool or gutta-percha tissue. The dressing may be left on for from twelve to forty-eight hours.—J. M. S.